

Filed for intro on 01/26/98  
SENATE BILL 2499 By  
Crutchfield

HOUSE BILL 2426  
By Stulce

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 6, relative to  
municipal government.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, for there to be a referendum there must be a petition which outlines the area to be considered for designation as an incorporation and annexation free zone. The petition shall be signed by a majority of the registered voters in the area outside the city limits, and that area must consist of more than two hundred twenty-five (225) citizens. The petition shall be submitted to the local election commission which shall verify the signatures. Along with such petition, the petitioners shall submit the cost of conducting the referendum.

SECTION 2. If the petition has the requisite number of signatures, the election commission shall set an election within forty-five (45) to sixty-five (65) days after the date on which the signatures were verified. If an election has been previously scheduled to occur on those days, the petition may call for the referendum to be held on the same day as the previously scheduled election thereby reducing the costs to the petitioners. If the petitioners choose to schedule the referendum on a day when no other election is scheduled the petitioners shall bear the entire cost of the referendum.

SECTION 3. If the area being considered for designation as an incorporation and annexation free zone is within one (1) mile of any city limits as those city limits existed on July 1,

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1997, then the referendum must prevail by at least seventy percent (70%) of the vote in order to be designated as an incorporation and annexation free zone; for an area within two (2) miles of any city limits, the referendum must prevail by at least sixty percent (60%) of the vote; and for an area within three (3) miles or more of any city limits, the referendum must prevail by at least fifty percent (50%) of the vote. If the referendum prevails, then the designated area shall not be subject to incorporation or annexation unless the registered voters of that area by a majority vote choose to be incorporated or annexed.

SECTION . This act shall take effect July 1, 1998, the public welfare requiring it.